Jawaharlal Nehru set up his own Government. I am told, Sir, that Mr. Rajiv Sethi, who is stated to be a blue-eyed chap—I do not know whether he is blue-eyed or golden-eyed; let him have any eyes—and such people are fooling this Government and bringing all the money down the drain...

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Rs. 20 crores.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: They say only five crores.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: (Madhya Pradesh): Much more than that.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I do not know whether it is Rs. 20 crores. Whatever it is, we are dying for lack of drinking water. For Heaven's sake, do not play with the lives of the rural people and stop these cultural 'melas' which are going on here and there. Thank you, Sir.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Upendra, you go on with your own Special Mention. Don't comment on the other.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: You can allow me to substantiate it. This is a very serious matter.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: This is something which is disgusting.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will have a separate discussion on it.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Sir, they are mismanaging the whole show. That also should be discussed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You come to your Special Mention now.

REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED ARREST OF A MEMBER OF TAMIL ACTIVISTS OF SRI LANKA IN TAMIL NADU

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I rise to press my indignation over the action of the Tamil Nadu Government on Saturday, when in a surprise swoop they arrested hundreds of Tamil freedom fighters from Sri Lanka who have been allowed to stay in India as refugees.

Sir, the leaders of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, Mr. Prabhakaran and Mr. Balasingham have also been arrested and several leaders and activists are today under house arrest. And it was not an ordinary arrest. Sir, they were all humiliated and treated like ordinary criminals. Sir, the report says that Mr. Prabhakaran had been arrested, interrogated and photographed, including profile shots, like a common criminal. Sir, there is also a reaction from the Tamil activists there. Instead of the Government of India taking this extreme step, had they been forewarned they would probably have cooperated with the Government.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Not the Government of India.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: I am raising this because the Tamil Nadu Government would not have taken this harsh step without the consent of the Government of India. Though the official spokesman has denied this, there must have been prior consultation also with the Government of India, and the Government of India must have advised the Tamil Nadu Government to take action in view of the SAARC meeting in Bangalore.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only Ask whether it is true or not.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: This kind of action of the Tamil Nadu Government in connivance with the Government of India will only give encouragement to the genocide being committed by the Sri Lankan Government. Already Mr. Athulathmudali, Minister for

[Shri Parthaneni Upendra]

Internal Security of Sri Lanka, has welcomed the Tamil Nadu Government's action. The Government of India has already been following a policy of appeasement all along, without giving any support to the freedom fighters in Sri Lanka and this kind of action will further encourage the Sri Lankan Government to continue its policy of genocide. We are following double standards in dealing with this type of struggle. When it comes to South Africa we are not treating it as an internal matter; we are going all-out to help the freedom fighters there and we are also helping the front-line African States. But when it comes to Sri Lanka, you are adopting a different attitude. The Government of India following a completely ambivalent policy. The Government of India must abandon this kind of policy and give active support to freedom fighters of Sri Lanka. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Aruna Aladi.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would like to remind this House that we are always sympathetic with the Sri Lanka militants. We are giving moral support within the international norms. Our Chief Minister is making serious efforts to settle the issue to the full satisfaction of Tamils. He had discussions with the Prime Minister. For that purpose, he stayed there in Delhi for three days and had a discussion with our Prime Minister.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: That confirms my statement.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: He discussed the main issue. As reported in the press and mentioned by Mr. Upendra, we have not treated them like criminals. They are our own brothers. We treat them well and we respect them. We are having great sympathy for them. The House will agree with me that is the constitutional responsibility of the State to maintain law and order The force which is helpful to Sri Lanka Tamil Militants is none other than the force under the leadership of MGR. I may remind the House that we have always been sympathetic and helpful to the militants in Sri Lanka. Despite the action, we are sympathetic. We are always fighting for their cause.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot have a debate on it. You can have a special discussion if you want. I will allow.

REFERENCE TO THE HARDSHIP TO FARMERS DUE TO INCREASE IN ELECTRICITY CHARGES AND ALSO DUE TO POWER SHORTAGE

श्री सत्यपाल मलिक (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से एक गंभीर परंपरा जो चल पड़ी है, उसकी ओर सरकार का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं । श्रीमन् जो हमारे बिजली बोर्ड हैं, वे कर्मचारियों की नालायकी की वजह से घाटे में चल रहे हैं, जिसे पूरा करने के लिए बिजली की दरें बढ़ाई जा रही हैं जिसका असर किसानों पर पड़ रहा है। अभी हमारे जिले के 46 जिले सूखे की चपेट में थे तब भी बिजली की दरें बढ़ाई गई। ब्रह्मदत्त जी कामयाब बिजली मंत्री यहां बैठे हुए हैं, इनको मालूम है कि लोग इसके लिए रिसिस्ट कर रहे हैं ।

[उप-सभाध्यक्ष (श्री पवन कुमार बांसल) पीठासीन हुए]

श्रीमन् इसके लिए रेशनेल यह दिया जाता है कि आप अपने रिसोर्सेज जुटाइए अगर आपके बिजली बोर्ड घाटे में चलते हैं । रिसोर्सेज जुटाने का एक ही तरीका ढूंढा गया कि उपभोक्ताओं के ऊपर यह बोझ डालकर उनको मार मारो जाए । सही बात यह है कि जो बिजली बोर्डों